

Matthew Week 29: 3 Truths and a Warning

Scripture Memory of the Month

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.
- Matthew 28:19-20

1) CATCH UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. Because God is our Father we are family. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?

What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)? Are there any practical needs you have right now?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2) DISCUSS THE TEXT - ENGAGE THE HEART

Since we follow Jesus we seek to apply the Gospel continually to all of life. God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25).

Read Matthew 15:29-16:12

What stands out?

Spencer walked through 3 truths in his sermon: Jesus heals, Jesus provides and the heart of the gospel message. Let's talk through our personal experiences with these truths.

Healing

What has been your experience with healing? Have you personally witnessed healing in your life or the life of someone close to you?

Has there been a time when you prayed for healing for someone and it did not happen? If so, how did it affect your relationship with Christ? If this has not happened in your life, how do you think it would affect your faith?

Provision

Can anyone describe a time when Jesus has supernaturally provided for your needs? How did it affect your relationship with Jesus?

How has your relationship toward Christ been affected in times when you are barely making ends meet?

The Gospel

What circumstances or events in your life have caused you to doubt Jesus' love for you?

Are you currently walking in doubt or disbelief?

We must remember the heart of the gospel message throughout all of life; good times and bad. Jesus can heal. He can provide abundantly. However, even when he does not heal in an earthly, physical sense, and even when we are barely making ends meet; we must remember he is still good. His sacrifice on our behalf is enough to prove his love for us. Temporary circumstances are not enough to negate the eternal benefits that his sacrifice brings. Take some time to pray for specific areas where we have disbelieved the truth of the gospel and that we would remember Christ's love for us shown through his sacrifice.

3) REVIEW THE MISSION

Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit we have been sent as missionaries in everyday life to display God's glory and lead others to repentance and faith through belief in the gospel. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

People:

Who can be intentionally living on mission amidst our current situation? (neighbors, coworkers, or a specific demographic in Columbia)

Plan:

Who is one person you can share the gospel with this week? How can that be done under the current constraints? Spend some time praying for these opportunities.

How can we be intentional in times like this about sharing the gospel?

Pray:

Pray for God to help us love him above all else that we may join him boldly in his mission to redeem the world. Pray for those around us that we need to share this with or invite in.